

The Sun.

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If our friends who favor us with money, orders and illustrations returned they must be in all cases sent stamps for that purpose.

Pray Into the Bowels of Both Shipping Trust and Ship Bill.

The unanimous passage by the Senate of the amended Burton resolution for an investigation of all influences at work for or against the ship purchase bill is a good thing.

Under present conditions nobody knows what he is buying when he pays his six cents for a loaf of bread.

The situation now existing results from non-enforcement of a proper, necessary and wholly admirable ordinance.

Germany's New War Zone Note.

Each new German note interpreting and reinforcing the "war zone" decree of the Admiralty is a new mystification.

The straining after disclaimer of responsibility in advance is conspicuous in this new note.

New York City is the good milk cow of the State.

Of the \$18,817 income of the metropolis of Alretia, in Hamilton county, in 1913, the tidy sum of \$14,884 came from the State.

In the \$100,000,000 good roads expenditure New York City is interested to the extent of 69 per cent.

What was done to the city, what is still being done to it, in the construction of the new water supply system is notorious.

The Theatre Saved.

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tion, yours is gone. The American Drama has been saved. It has been resuscitated, rejuvenated, recreated, by the most wonderful theatre that was ever described in print.

Where it is to be nobody knows. Who is to act in it nobody knows. But the repertoire is to include every play from the tragedies of the Greeks down to Ibsen.

Then, most important of all considerations, the manager has been selected. Rather he has elected himself to the job of saving the American stage.

Of all the bluster and brag, the nonsense and pretence, the self-advertising and the art faking that the reformation of the stage has brought into view, there was never anything so flagrant in its mendacity and utter futility as the amusing "National Theatre of America" exists only on paper.

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ing the confiscation of grains and certain foods, Germany would not have to complain of what she calls England's disregard and defiance of international law.

Having placed a weapon in England's hands, Germany is stopped from complaining of the use of it.

The note presented to the State Department does not strengthen Germany's case, clear up any misconceptions, or affect in the least the determination to hold Germany strictly accountable if American ships are destroyed or American lives lost.

Both, through the mistakes of her naval officers.

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THOMPSON BAKER. If he warbles at Wildwood, he is not far from Great Sound.

But since the Hon. JINGLE THOMPSON BAKER asks both on his frank envelope and in the canticle which he is scattering among the faithful in the counties of Atlantic, Burlington, Cape May and Cumberland,

"Does custom sanctify imbecility?" it is only courteous to reply that some customs do, and notably the franking privilege.

When Good Bodies Must Be Made.

If 553 Cornell freshmen have curvature of the spine, only twenty-one have fully developed bodies, 136 were very poorly developed, as the medical adviser to the students certifies.

Altogether the most important ruling the Federal Reserve Board has yet made is contained in the regulations tentatively framed to permit the reserve banks to begin dealings in bills of exchange payable in dollars in the United States and based on the importation or exportation of goods.

The regulations are tentative, but only in the sense that they are designed to provide for the beginnings of a great new department of the money market in this country.

As experience tests the workings of the reorganized banking system the Federal Reserve Board proposes to expand the functions permitted to the reserve banks under its rules.

There is every reason to believe that time, and no long time either, will demonstrate the importance and success of this new departure.

In our banking reform one of the prime objects was to facilitate the establishment of a real bill market, and circumstances have made the provisions of the Federal Reserve act in this regard singularly propitious.

The European war has conferred on American business and finance a tremendous opportunity and a large responsibility.

In less than six months from the outbreak of the war it was manifested that New York was in the way of becoming the world money market to which all countries must turn, for a considerable interval at least, for the financial accommodation furnished in the past by London, Paris and Berlin.

The foreign trade which we have been doing and the foreign banking operations in which we are branching out have testified that New York was becoming the world's commercial clearing house, for the time being anyway.

It has been altogether desirable that our bankers and merchants should be equipped with the facilities for making American resources of wealth available for the world's uses.

This precisely is what should be accomplished by the official sanction given to the Federal Reserve banks to engage in the rediscount of dollar exchange bills and in open market dealings in such bills.

A powerful impetus would seem by this action to be generated for the creation of a broad discount market, and our commerce and finance should be enabled to expand the scope of their operations with other countries at a rate and on a scale which will be astonishing.

Demonstrated success in making a market for foreign acceptances, which by the way will furnish the best of all possible protections for our bank reserves of gold, should prepare the way for permission to member banks in the Federal Reserve system to accept domestic bills.

Nevertheless this is something which is not now obviously needed. The present superabundant lending power of the domestic money market assures ample satisfaction of all prospective requirements without reinforcement.

It is on the foreign side that American finance needs assistance to make a full use of the opportunity which the war provides.

It is such assistance that the Federal Reserve banks can render in their purchase of dollar acceptances, and the help that they will thus afford should raise dollar exchange to a place in the world's esteem rivaling that which has been held by the sterling bill in London.

A homeless and hungry man who applied to the Hackensack police station for relief said that he could speak ten languages and complained that a college education had not done him much good.

A linguist has the advantage of being able to ask for a meal of almost every household in the United States, but it is a pity to find that New York City is not so well equipped.

THE PRICE OF BREAD.

An Old Baker Says There Would Be Economy in a Larger Loaf.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: The bread question and the baker are now up for discussion.

It interests everybody, and especially the poor who at this time of unemployment have found it difficult to make both ends meet.

The wholesale bakers, otherwise known as the big bakers, in a masterly way made known by announcement to their trade and the public that on and after a certain date an advance of one cent a loaf would be made.

There some big bakers have heard the news with satisfaction that twelve ounces of baked bread for four cents at six cents a loaf of twelve ounces is a loaf of twelve ounces at this time, and most of us agree that the price is high, very high.

If we could get bread for six cents a loaf, we would not say it was a miracle. Each of these concerns has a well known and established reputation known in the business, and so the public rightly expected cheaper bread, a bigger loaf.

There are retail bakers in this city today which have no machinery whatever, and are selling at their counter a one pound loaf of bread for five cents.

This is considered a fair price, where delivery is not required. I hope and trust that an earnest discussion of this question may bring results.

There are several things that go to make up the price of bread. One is the cost of delivery, the grocer's toll of one cent a loaf or more and the return of stale bread.

There are some people who would like to see the bread of the world, say, one pound or any multiple of a pound, but this does not seem best to me.

The changing market price of flour is a factor in the price of bread. The baker today makes a good four purchase, the purchase of to-morrow will probably not be so good, and so it is inevitable that the price of bread will fluctuate.

There is one thing that the baker can do to reduce the price of bread. He can reduce the number of loaves of bread that he bakes. He can reduce the number of loaves of bread that he bakes.

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SICKNESS INSURANCE.

Should the German System Be Adopted in the United States?

Among the numerous welfare activities that have recently sprung up insurance of tollers against losses by sickness or death, which so often exhaust the entire savings of a family.

It is happily known in Germany, sickness insurance originated in Germany, where the Government regards the workman as its special ward.

In an elaborate report on this subject by the United States Public Health Service it is clearly demonstrated. This type of insurance diminishes its cost by distributing the risk among many.

It is stated in the report that there are 20,000 women and girls employed in stores alone who receive less than \$7.50 a week. This number constitutes 54 per cent. of all women employed in stores.

Ten thousand women and girls receive less than \$5.50 a week. In shift and paper box factories more than half of the women workers receive less than \$7 a week, and one-fourth of them receive less than \$5.

To remedy the condition it is proposed that a law be enacted creating a wage commission of three persons appointed by the Governor, which should investigate, shall establish a minimum wage for the women workers.

It is further recommended that there be framed an amendment to the Constitution empowering the Legislature to establish a wage commission which shall have power to fix wages for women and minors.

Senator Robert F. Wagner and Assemblyman Alfred E. Smith, members of the Factory Commission, have introduced a bill for the reorganization of the labor law. It merely supplies the present instrument and makes the law "more effective."

ALBANY, Feb. 15.—Senator Robert F. Wagner and Assemblyman Alfred E. Smith, members of the Factory Commission, have introduced a bill for the reorganization of the labor law.

It is to be hoped that the example of Germany or a similar one of England may soon be followed in this country.

NEW YORK, February 15.

BILLY SUNDAY.

The Purity of His Language Defended by a Hearer.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: The letter of Wernoch S. Ford, published in THE SUN of February 8, should not go unmentioned.

It is to be hoped that the example of Germany or a similar one of England may soon be followed in this country.

NEW YORK, February 15.

OUR AMERICAN COLONY.

A Few Survivors Meet Once a Month in Manhattan.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Let me tell you a story which is being told in New York City.

He need not hesitate if he desires to call. NEW YORK, February 15.

WOULD HAVE STATE FIX WOMEN'S WAGES

Factory Commission Urges Special Board to Determine Minimum.

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NEEDS OF FEEBLE MINDED.

Thousands Mentally Deficient Unable to Get State Aid.

ALBANY, Feb. 15.—The State Commission to Investigate Provisions for the Mentally Deficient, appointed pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 272 of the Laws of 1914, presented its report to the Legislature today.

Some of the recommendations follow in part: "The existing State institutions for the mentally deficient make provision for care of not more than 2,000 of this class, while the representatives of the commission have definitely learned of 21,000 persons in the State who are known to be mentally defective."

The majority of these need or are likely to need custodial care. It is estimated that nearly 5,000 of these women are between the ages of 14 and 45.

"The mentally deficient man or woman at liberty constitutes a serious menace to the State. In many cases the mental defect is inherited and transmitted with almost unerring accuracy to succeeding generations."

"The commission considers it not only most important to increase the capacity of the institutions but also regards it as highly desirable to make these institutions better."

"As a first step toward the betterment of the mentally deficient, the commission has reached the reasonable limit of its capacity. The commission also favors the establishment of a separate institution for the care of the mentally deficient in the south-eastern part of the State."

"Inasmuch as the State reformatory for men and women have large numbers of mentally defective inmates, the commission is of the opinion that separate institutions should be established, one for each sex, for the safekeeping of the mentally defective delinquent class."

MR. DE FOREST STILL HEADS ART MUSEUM

Metropolitan Trustees Hear Report of Unusually Important Year.

At the annual meeting of the trustees of the Metropolitan Museum of Art yesterday afternoon the officers of the year were selected, and Robert W. de Forest was again president.

Mr. de Forest said that last year was one of unusual importance in the history of the museum, and that the year had been one of the most successful in its history.

The members of the board of trustees were elected, and the following were re-elected: Robert W. de Forest, president; John H. Thompson, vice-president; and John H. Thompson, secretary.

The board of trustees also elected a committee to investigate the financial condition of the museum, and to report to the next annual meeting.

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